

DD/S&T 3303-70

30 Sept 1970

Memo for ExDir/Compt

Subj: Estab of R D and E Bd

1. Since the assignment of responsibility for coordinating the r, d and e activities of the Agency to the DD/S&T in July 1967, informal arrangements have been developed among the Directorates to assist the DD/S&T in achieving effective coordination and in monitoring Agency RD&E activities.

2. If you concur, I now propose to formalize the participation in this activity by establishing a Research, Development and Engineering Board. This Board shall consist of two representatives from each Directorate, two representatives from OPPB, one representative from OSP, and such other representation as may be necessary to fulfill the responsibilities described in [] The Special Assistant to the DD/S&T authorized for this RD&E coordination activity will serve as chairman.

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3. The principal task for the Board will be the preparation and submission to the DD/S&T of coordinated program plans (including cost estimates) for Agency RD&E activities. I shall expect the Board to ensure that program plans are consistent with and support Agency objectives, and that unnecessary or wasteful duplication between individual programs or projects does not take place. As an essential part of its program planning responsibility, the Board will place special emphasis on the identification of gaps in the Agency's RD&E efforts.

/s/ Carl E. Duckett
R&D Coordinator

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Considerable progress has been made in the past few years in organizing and coordinating the R&D programs. There is greater clarity in project objectives and costs, and technical cooperation between R&D components has improved. What is needed now is a determined campaign to ensure that our limited R&D assets are concentrated on the ?real intelligence? problems we are now facing. R&D plan needs to be consistent in purpose and in tune with the priorities that lie ahead. We need to promote a close and continuing dialogue between Agency elements responsible for operating programs and those responsible for the administration of R&D.

The DDS&T might launch this discussion by outlining the broad objectives of the present R&D program, identify areas now receiving major emphasis and technological advances which offer promise in intelligence operations in the 1970s

It will become even more important that we use R&D capabilities to achieve intel objectives in the most effective and economical manner. What could be done to bring the users of R&D into closer contact with those initiating R&D efforts? There is also a question as to the point in time at which policy considerations should be assessed in R&D; e.g., when, in the development of a penetration type system should possible policy constraints on its use be evaluated?

From background paper for March 1970 Planning Session
[redacted] Agenda item I-C: R&D--The Next Step

"Working Weekend [redacted]

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In
~~During~~ consideration of the ORD program
during the Quarterly Review held in January 1970,
Mr. Duckett stated in strong terms that R&D in the
S&T Directorate would focus on two things:
the first, systems development in which at least
a prototype would be produced which had a reasonably
definite chance of being used, and second, the
furthering of technology which either had or could be shown
to have a likely use for Agency work. In-between
gadgeteering would not be encouraged.

___/ Chief, PPB/DDS&T, MFR,
27 Jan 70, sub: ORD Third Quarter Review,
DD/S&T 373-70, S.